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URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL OF SUNBURY-ON-THAMES  
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ANNUAL REPORT  
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OF THE  
=====

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH  
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1 9 4 6  
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Alexander Ureuhart, M.A., M.D., Ch.B., D.P.H.  
(Resigned March 1947)  
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R. Arnallt Jones, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H.  
(Appointed April 1947)  
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PUBLIC HEALTH COMMITTEE 1946

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Chairman:

Councillor C.K.Davis

Vice-Chairman:

Councillor A. ~~W. Bellm~~ BALAAM.

Councillors: ~~A.A.BELL~~  
~~A.H.Balaam~~, B.P.Barker, A.E.Cornfield, J.H.Kaye,  
A.W.Mason, J.E.C.Slagg, A.W.Whitbread.

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Staff of the Public Health Department

(a) Medical Officer of Health (Part time)

Alexander Urquhart, M.A., M.D., Ch.B., D.P.H.

(b) Sanitary Inspector

T.J.Moore, M.R.San.I., M.S.I.A.

(c) Additional Sanitary Inspector

A.E.Pooley, M.S.I.A.

(d) Student Sanitary Inspector

J.M.Bell (1st September 1946)

Clerk: Mrs. O.W.Lukyn.

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# THE URBAN DISTRICT OF SUNBURY-ON-THAMES

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Area in acres	...	...	...	...	...	...	5,689
Population (estimated by the Registrar-General for 1946)...	...	...	...	...	...	...	21,000
Rateable Value ... (at 1-4-46)	...	...	...	...	...	...	£207,500
Product of a penny rate	...	...	...	...	...	...	£865

## VITAL STATISTICS

### Births

	<u>Total</u>	<u>Males</u>	<u>Females</u>
Legitimate	421	232	189
Illegitimate	28	14	14
	449 (355)	246 (180)	203 (175)

(Figures in brackets are for previous year)

Birth Rate per 1,000 of the estimated  
resident population ... 21.38 (17.9)

England and Wales ... 19.1 (16.1)

Deaths 202 (189) 107 (100) 95 (89)

Death rate per 1,000 of the estimated  
resident population ... 9.6 (9.5)

England and Wales ... 11.5 (11.4)

Still Births 12 7 5

Rate per 1,000 (Live and still birth) 0.57

### Death Rate of Infants under 1 year of age

Deaths under 1 year	...	...	...	1.8
All infants per 1,000 live births	...	...	...	40.08
Deaths from Measles (all ages)	...	...	...	Nil
Deaths from Whooping Cough (").	...	...	...	Nil
Deaths from Diarrhoea (under 2 years)	...	...	...	1

(Two deaths were due to Violent causes, other than road accidents, five deaths were due to Prematurity)



### Chief Causes of Death in 1946

Heart Disease	18 males, 22 females	Total 40
Cancer	21 males, 14 females	Total 35

Of the deaths registered in the District in 1946:

42 were of persons between 60 and 70 years of age (28 men, 14 women)

64 " " " " 70 and 80 " " " (24 men, 10 women)

35 " " " " 80 and 90 " " " (14 men, 21 women)

10 were over 90 (4 men and 6 women).

(See Table)

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### GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES FOR THE AREA.

#### Water Supply

The water supply of the area is satisfactory both in quantity and quality. Almost all the dwelling houses in the District are supplied from the mains of the various Water Companies.

The following are the Water Companies serving the area:

- (a) The Metropolitan Water Board supplies Sunbury, Sunbury Common, Upper Halliford and Charlton.
- (b) The West Surrey Water Company supplies Shepperton and Littleton.
- (c) The South West Suburban Water Company supplies Ashford Common.

Stand Pipes are placed opposite Pharoah's Island. A few dwellings on Hamhaugh Island and some isolated cottages are dependent on shallow wells. The water from these supplies is periodically examined.

#### Laboratory Facilities

Water, milk, foodstuffs, sputa, swabs, etc., requiring Laboratory examination are sent to the Clinical Research Association, London.

During 1946, the following specimens were dealt with:

Swabs for Diphtheria	21	All negative
Sputa for Tuberculosis	4	One positive

and 15 samples of milk were sent up for bio-chemical reports.

### Nursing Homes

<u>Proprietor</u>	<u>Address</u>	<u>No. of Beds registered</u>	<u>No. of Maternity beds registered</u>
Mrs. M. Blamey ) Mrs. D. Jones )	Sunbury Nursing Homes West Lodge Weir House Montford House	61	-
Miss E.R. Jones	"Plas Gwyn" 73 Manor Lane, Sunbury	1	1

### PREVALENCE AND CONTROL OF INFECTIOUS AND OTHER DISEASES

<u>Diphtheria</u>	Four cases were notified but three turned out to be Tonsillitis, the fourth being a girl of 11 years who had not been immunised. One other case was notified, a non-civilian, male, aged 23.
<u>Scarlet Fever</u>	16 cases notified. 6 were nursed at home, and 10 sent to Hospital.
<u>Chickenpox</u>	3 notified by Medical Practitioners, 12 from schools.
<u>Measles</u>	12 cases only notified, 6 others brought to my notice from Headmasters of Schools.
<u>Whooping Cough</u>	16 cases notified. 24 cases from schools.
<u>Erysipelas</u>	Two cases, females, ages 18 and 71.
<u>Poliomyelitis</u>	One case. Fatal. Male, age 30.
<u>Meningitis</u> (Post Influenzal)	One case. Fatal. Male, 16 months.
<u>Scabies</u>	Treatment for scabies is given at the Spelthorne School Clinic, Chertsey Road, Ashford Common, (by arrangement with the Middlesex County Council) twice a week, on Tuesdays and Thursdays from 5 p.m. to 8 p.m. During 1946, 264 persons were treated, as against 359 in 1945.



### Ambulance Facilities

For infectious cases, patients are removed in the ambulance provided by the Isolation Hospital, Ashford, from their homes to the hospital.

For non-infectious and accident cases, the Council's ambulance was called out during 1946 as follows:

Accidents 127, illness 322, maternity 33, a total of 482 journeys and 4,109 miles.

### Nursing in the Home

General The Sunbury, Halliford and District Nursing Association maintains by voluntary subscriptions one district nurse. Her services are much appreciated and in continual demand.

The Shepperton and Littleton District Nursing Association also maintains by voluntary subscriptions a district nurse who, in addition, practises midwifery in that area by arrangements made with the Middlesex County Council in accordance with the Midwives Act 1936.

Infectious Disease The home nursing of infectious disease is not undertaken by the Local Authority.

Midwives During the year, 5 midwives practised within the area, as follows:

#### Midwives employed in Sunbury U.D. by the Middlesex County Council

FERON, Edith, 59 Green Street, Sunbury  
JAMES, E.G.P. "Mansard" Charlton Road, Shepperton  
GRIDLEY, M.E. 117 Ashridge Way, Sunbury

Midwife employed in Sunbury U.D. (for the Shepperton area) by the Shepperton & Littleton District Nursing Association under arrangements made with the Middlesex County Council in accordance with the Midwives Act 1936 : -

GREENO, J.L. "Sherbourne" Crescent Road, Shepperton

#### Midwife resident in Sunbury

JONES, Edith R. 73 Manor Lane, Sunbury



## Diphtheria Immunisation

The yearly returns sent to the Ministry of Health were as follows:

	<u>Under 5</u>	<u>Age 5 to 14</u>	<u>Total</u>
Jan. 1st to 30th June 1946	156	49	205
July 1st to 31st Dec. 1946	85	7	92
	241	56	297

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Number of children who were given a secondary or reinforcing injection 25.

## GENERAL REPORT FOR 1946

Comparison of the statistical data revealed in this report with those for 1945 gives cause for satisfaction.

The Birth Rate in the District was the highest since the Amalgamation Order in 1930. The Death Rate is one of the lowest recorded since 1930.

As usual, Heart Disease and Cancer were the major causes of death among adults, whilst Prematurity accounted for a substantial proportion of the deaths in infancy.

The District was free from major epidemics and no deaths occurred from Diphtheria, Measles, Scarlet Fever or Whooping Cough. There were no cases of Typhoid, Paratyphoid Fever, Dysentery or Small Pox. One case of Diphtheria was notified and this recovered. (Girl - not immunised).

The arrangements worked smoothly whereby children were immunised, by Medical Practitioners and at the County Maternity and Child Welfare Centres and School Clinics. The response of the parents to those facilities has been highly commendable, with the result that the majority of children have received a primary inoculation in the first year of life. A reinforcing dose is advised at 5 years of age in order to retain the immunity of the individual at a satisfactory level.

The efficacy of a combined Diphtheria and Whooping Cough prophylactic is under investigation in certain selected districts; a favourable outcome may warrant the general use of this prophylactic.

In recent years an increasing number of expectant mothers have sought admission to Hospitals and Nursing Homes for their confinement but owing to widespread shortage of maternity beds for these cases admission is restricted to those selected on medical or environmental considerations.

The demand for houses increased during the year. Each application was investigated by this department and points were allotted for the assessment of priority. The supply of housing accommodation remained far short of the demand and of the ills that attend on the consequent overcrowding, not the least are those of a psychological nature due to the lack of separate homes for individual families.

The proportion of elderly people in the community is increasing and it is recognised that special welfare problems present themselves in consequence, i.e. problems of housing, home help and care of the chronic sick. In this connection it is gratifying to record the erection, during 1946, of twelve bungalows for elderly people.

Staff Mr. A.E.Poolcy returned from the Services and resumed duties as Additional Sanitary Inspector on the 28th January 1946.  
Mr. J.M.Bell was appointed Student Sanitary Inspector in the Department on the 1st September 1946.

In conclusion, I wish to thank Mr. T.J.Moore, our Sanitary Inspector for his co-operation in compiling this report and special acknowledgement is due to Mrs. Lukyn for her valuable assistance in this connection.

R. ARNALLT JONES.

Sunbury-on-Thames  
August 1947.

Medical Officer of Health.



DEATHS IN 1946 CLASSIFIED BY AGES AND CAUSES

Disease	All ages	Under 1 yr	1-2	3-5	6-10	11-15	16-20	21-25	26-35	36-45	46-55	56-65	Over 65
1. Typhoid and para- typhoid fevers	-												
2. Cerebro-spinal fever	-												
3. Scarlet Fever	-												
4. Whooping cough	-												
5. Diphtheria	-												
6. Tuberculosis of respira- tory system	10		1			1		3	2		2	1	
7. Other forms of tubercu- losis	1		1										
8. Syphilitic diseases	2	1										1	
9. Influenza	2		1										
10. Measles	-												1
11. Acute polio-myelitis and polio-encephalitis	1								1				
12. Acute inf. enceph.	-												
13. Cancer, buc. cav. & oesoph (M) uterus (F)	4												4
14. Cancer of stomach & duodenum	5										1	2	2
15. Cancer of Breast	3												
16. Cancer of all other sites	23									1			2
17. Diabetes	-										6	8	9
18. Intracranial vascular lesions	22											2	20
19. Heart Disease	40												
20. Other diseases of circulatory system	14										3 4	5 1	32 9
21. Bronchitis	9												
22. Pneumonia	7	1			1								8
23. Other resp. diseases	4					1						1	4
24. Ulcer of stomach or duodenum	3								1			1	2
25. Diarrhoea under 2 years	1	1											
26. Appendicitis	2	1											
27. Other digestive diseases	7	1							1				
28. Nephritis	5											1	4
29. Puerperal & post-abortion sepsis	-								1			2	2
30. Other maternal causes	-												
31. Premature birth	5	5											
32. Con. mal. Birth inj. Infant. dis.	7	6	1										
33. Suicide	-												
34. Road traffic accidents	5			1			1						
35. Other violent causes	5	2		1								1	1
36. All other causes	15							1			1	1	1
ALL CAUSES	202	18	3	3	1	1	2	4	8	2	16	29	115





# TUBERCULOSIS 1946

Age Periods		New Cases				Deaths			
Years	Pul.		Non-Pul		Pul		Non-Pul		
	M	F	M	F.	M.	F	M.	F.	
1 - 4		1	1		1		1		
5 - 10	2	1							
11 - 15		2				1			
16 - 20	6	2							
21 - 25	4	2				2			
26 - 35	2	2			1	1			
36 - 45	2	5				1			
46 - 55	2				1				
56 - 65	1				1	1			
65--& upwards									
TOTAL	19	15			4	6	1		

